

REMARKS

In the aforementioned Office communication, the examiner rejected all of claims 1-34 based on a defective reissue declaration and stated in this rejection that applicant needed to specifically point out what the original claims lacked that the newly added claims had or vice versa and must further acknowledge the existence of an error in either the specification and/or the drawings, which error caused the original patent to be defective as evidenced in the instant application by its submission of new Fig. 8 and an amendment to the specification including a description of new Fig. 8. Further, claims 27, 28, and 32-34 were rejected under Section 112 as claim 27 was felt to be fully a part of claim 24 upon which it was dependent.

First of all, in regard to the rejection of the specified claims under Section 112, claim 27 has been canceled herein, and claims 28 and 32 amended so they are no longer dependent upon canceled claim 27. The examiner's noting of this error is appreciated, and it is felt to be corrected by the amendments noted.

Applicant further notes that an error occurred in the drawing of the original patent in that the drawing did not include an illustration of the embodiment of applicant's invention found in column 10, line 65 through column 11, line 8 of the patent specification. In order to correct that error, a new Fig. 8 has been added to the patent, which provides support for the disclosure noted in the specification and for new claims 24-34. The specification has been amended to incorporate reference to new Fig. 8.

In order to be more specific as to what is found in claims 24-34 that is not found in original claims 1-23, or vice versa, it should be noted as follows: With reference to claim 1, upon which claims 2, 3, and 14-23 are dependent, and specifically in column

12, lines 19 and 20 of the patent, it is stated the engagement means includes “a guiding loop on said first vertical member” and thereafter in the claim defines the relationship of the guiding loop to a bead fixed on the auxiliary tilt cord and an engaging collar slidably positioned on the auxiliary tilt cord. This arrangement is not found in new claims 24-34. In other words, in new claim 24, upon which claims 25, 26, and 28-34 are dependent, the engaging means is defined as including an engaging collar slidably positioned on the auxiliary tilt cord but there is no reference to guiding loops as found in claim 1 and the claims dependent thereon. Claim 24 further defines the relationship of the specified engaging means to other elements of the blind, which is different from the relationship of the guiding loops included in the engaging means of claim 1 and the claims dependent thereon.

Further, independent claim 4 found in the original patent defines the engaging means in a broad way and does not specify the engaging means as including the engaging collar of claim 24 and the claims dependent thereon. The engaging means in claim 4 is defined in column 12, lines 59-67 of the patent, and it can be appreciated that that description of the engaging means is quite distinct from the description of the engaging means found in claim 24, commencing in line 21 of the patent and continuing through to the end of the claim. Claims 25, 26, and 28-34 being dependent upon claim 24 are claims directed to a venetian blind having the slidable engaging collar as defined in claim 24 at the location specified so these claims are felt to be distinct from claim 4 and claims 5-13, which are dependent thereon.

Pursuant to the above, it is felt the basis for applicant's reissue declaration has been clarified in a specific manner to satisfy the examiner's request for such, and it is

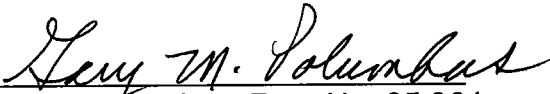
therefore felt the rejection of claims 1-34 based on a defective reissue declaration is felt to have been overcome. Further, the acknowledgement of the error in the drawings and specification relating to new Fig. 8 should also remove any reservations about the effectiveness of the reissue declaration.

The rejection of claims 27, 28, and 32-34 under Section 112 is also felt to have been overcome by the canceling of claim 27 and the amendments to claims 28 and 32 to reflect that cancellation.

There being no other rejections of the application, it is felt the reissue application is in condition for allowance and such action is courteously requested.

Dated this 16th day of February 2007.

Respectfully submitted,


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